

FISCAL NOTE

SB 167 - HB 138

February 10, 2005

SUMMARY OF BILL: Provides that no permit will be granted or state funds approved or expended for clear-cutting of any forest or other woodlands until an impact study is conducted and the findings are reviewed and acted upon by the Commissioner of Agriculture and Commissioner of Environment and Conservation.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Expenditures – Exceeds \$230,000

Assumptions:

- Landowner is responsible for having impact study completed and presented to the Department of Agriculture and Department of Environment and Conservation for review.
- Department of Agriculture and Department of Environment and Conservation will review studies and Department of Agriculture will need to hire three additional Forester 3 positions at a cost including salary and benefits estimated to be \$127,500.
- Division of Forestry to conduct environmental impact studies on state forest lands that are even-age harvested.
- Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency will be required to do impact studies for small plot clear-cutting performed by the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency as a wildlife habitat management tool at a cost estimated to exceed \$100,000.

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James W. White". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and "W".

James W. White, Executive Director